i) the binding of said substance to the ROR receptor or the binding of the complex formed by said

substance and the ROR receptor to its response element or to a nuclear factor which couples ROR to a RNA polymerase complex;

or

ii) the modulation of the transcriptional activity of a gene placed under the control of a promoter comprising said response element.

C2

4. **(Twice Amended)** The method of screening according to claim 3, comprising:

a) transfecting a cellular host with a DNA fragment encoding an ROR receptor;

b) cotransfecting the host in a) with a construct comprising a response element of said ROR receptor and at least one reporter gene; and

c) measuring the expression of the reporter gene in the presence of the test substance.

7. **(Twice Amended)** The method of screening according to claim 3, comprising:

C3

a) creating a plasmid which comprises several copies of a response element recognized by a yeast nuclear factor Gal4 cloned upstream of a strong promoter which controls the activity of a reporter gene;

b) creating a plasmid from a chimera which comprises a DNA binding domain of Gal4 and a DEF domain of ROR which are the ROR domains to which the ligands bind;

c) cotransfecting the plasmids in a) or b) into a cellular host;

d) incubating the host of c) in the presence of a test substance; and

e) measuring the activity of said reporter gene.

8. **(Twice Amended)** The method of screening according to claim 3, comprising:

a) transforming the cellular host with a construct carrying a gene encoding the ROR receptor
or a response element of the ROR receptor, and;

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b) assaying said cellular host or an extract thereof for the competitive displacement in the binding of labeled and unlabeled ligand to said ROR receptor.

16. **(Twice Amended)** A method for treating or preventing atherosclerosis in humans or animals comprising administering a medicament or a pharmaceutical composition comprising a

C4 substance which binds to the ROR receptor, or its response element involved in the regulation of the apo C-III gene.

22. (Amended) A method of measuring the expression of the apo C-III gene, comprising contacting a substance with the receptor of the ROR family or a response element of the ROR receptor

C5 involved in the regulation of the expression of the apo C-III gene or a response element of the ROR receptor or a nuclear factor which couples ROR to a RNA polymerase complex, and then measuring:

i) the binding of said substance to the ROR receptor or the binding of the complex formed by the said substance and the ROR receptor to its response element or to a nuclear factor which couples ROR to a RNA polymerase complex;

or

ii) the modulation of the transcriptional activity of a gene placed under the control of a promoter comprising said response element.